Committee to Restore Carbondale City Hall

41 North Church Street
Carbondale, PA 18407.

WHY WAS THE COMMITTEE TO RESTORE CARBONDALE CITY HALL FORMED?

The clock in the tower of Carbondale City Hall does not work. Portions of the brickwork on the exterior of the building have to be repointed and/or replaced. Portions of the roof have to be re-shingled. Portions of the mouldings have to be repaired and/or replaced. In order to make those repairs to the exterior of the building, the Committee to Restore Carbondale City Hall was formed in November 1981.

WHY SHOULD CARBONDALE CITY HALL BE RESTORED?

Carbondale City Hall, erected in 1869 and renovated and enlarged in 1892-1894, has been the seat of government of the city of Carbondale for 112 years. Such a building was not erected for the use of one generation or five generations or ten generations. Such a building was built for all generations, for all time. It is, therefore, the responsibility of every generation of Carbondaleans to maintain and transmit to the following generation a healthy building. It is now our turn to look after City Hall and to make certain that the building that we bequeath to our children is as vigorous as the building we inherited from our parents. If it is not, it is we who will bear the burden of shame. If it is, it is we who will be credited with having had faith not only in ourselves and our city but also in our children and the city that we bequeath to them.

The responsibility of the present generation to look after City Hall is particularly great for two reasons: (1) many repairs to the exterior of the building have to be made now, (2) the economy of northeastern Pennsylvania is not now as healthy as it was when City Hall was built. In restoring Carbondale City Hall to its former beauty, we will be performing an invaluable service not only to the building itself, but also to the city of Carbondale. To restore a building such as our City Hall is to proclaim to one and all that we, the present generation, not only have respect for Carbondale and its past, but also have faith in ourselves and in the future of Carbondale. That respect and that faith are very recognizable in both cities and in people. When that respect and that faith are recognizable in a city and in the inhabitants of that city, industrial prospects are attracted to, and ultimately locate in, that city. Not only does an industrial prospect have a bright future when it locates in such a city, the city itself has a bright future. In the long run, therefore, everyone benefits when people and cities have respect for the past and faith in themselves and in the future.

That we, as citizens of Carbondale, have respect for Carbondale and its past and faith in ourselves and in the future of Carbondale must be made known to all visitors to the city of Carbondale and to all industrial prospects who are thinking of locating in the Carbondale area. One of the ways that we can proclaim to one and all that we have decided to invest in Carbondale--past, present, and future--(and that <u>they</u>, therefore, should invest in Carbondale) is to restore Carbondale City Hall to its former beauty.